



COMDTINST 16240.1
17 MAY 1988

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 16240.1

Subj: Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) Administration and Operating Guidelines, RCS-G-OLE-2134

Ref: (a) COMDTINST M16247.1, Maritime Law Enforcement Manual (MLEM)
(b) COMDTINST M1000.6, Personnel Manual

1. PURPOSE. To standardize Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) operating procedures and formalize statistical reporting requirements. This instruction is applicable to existing TACLET's, LEDET's and the newly authorized deployable LEDET billets in the field. To simplify reporting requirements, the term "Tactical Law Enforcement Team (TACLET)" shall no longer be used.
2. DISCUSSION.
 - a. Primary Mission: To deploy boarding teams aboard appropriate U. S. Navy vessels operating in or transiting through areas of drug law enforcement interest.
 - b. Secondary Missions: When not engaged in their primary mission of deploying aboard USN vessels, it is intended that LEDET personnel be utilized to provide law enforcement training to local units, conduct law enforcement briefings for US Navy and Coast Guard units, act as liaison with other Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, act as air observers for Navy and law enforcement agency flights and participate in special law enforcement operations as required by their operational commander. LEDET personnel are not Coast Guard investigators. Requests for criminal investigations shall be referred to the appropriate District (ole). Law enforcement badges and credentials are not authorized for LEDET personnel. Close liaison with appropriate U. S. Navy commands is encouraged at all appropriate levels.

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2. c. Organization: LEDET personnel shall be organized by cognizant area/district/group commanders in designated teams which shall train and deploy together. Each team will have an alphanumerical designator which can be used to identify the team and personnel in correspondence and message traffic. The organization and designation of the teams nationally will be adjusted as operational requirements are identified.
- d. Duties: When not deployed, LEDET personnel work for the unit commanding officer and are expected to perform any duty assigned. In addition to duties assigned by the unit commander, personnel assigned to LEDET deployable billets may be expected to perform the following duties:
 - (1) Embarking in selected U. S. Navy ships,
 - (2) Conduct pre-deployment operational intelligence briefings to U. S. Navy and USCG units,
 - (3) Routine brief of U. S. Navy (both surface and air) surveillance units,
 - (4) Observers onboard Coast Guard/U. S. Navy/other agency air surveillance flights,
 - (5) Maritime law enforcement training,
 - (6) Custody crews onboard seized vessels,
 - (7) Prisoner escort and transport,
 - (8) Augment Coast Guard operational units and interagency MLE operations,
 - (9) Conduct post seizure debriefings, and
 - (10) Provide witness testimony.
- e. Assignments: LEDETs will normally be a five to seven person team assigned on a temporary basis to U. S. Navy vessels. These U. S. Navy ships are categorized as either "specially designated ships" or "ships of opportunity". Specially designated ships are ships being used in direct support of a Coast Guard operation and under Coast Guard tactical control. Ships of opportunity are ships transiting through areas of potential drug trafficking and under exclusive Coast Guard mission tasking. LEDETs are made up of a senior boarding officer (E-7 through O-4) assigned to serve as a command MLE advisor for U. S. Navy vessels, a boarding officer (E-5 or above), and three or more other qualified boarding team members.

2. f. QUALIFICATION:

- (1) General. All personnel assigned to LEDETs must become qualified on Coast Guard small arms and maritime law enforcement skills in accordance with guidelines contained in references (a) and (b). Firearms qualifications must remain current throughout the period the LEDET will be deployed. LEDET personnel assigned to Navy ships must meet the gender requirements of that particular ship (SECNAVINST 1300.12). Individuals should have official or civilian passports and current immunizations for all countries that border the area of patrol or transit.
 - (2) LEDET Team Leader. The duties of the LEDET team leader are similar to those of an Operations Officer of a WHEC or WMEC in regards to law enforcement. The LEDET team leader advises the U.S. Navy commanding officer on Coast Guard policies and MLE procedures, coordinates U.S. Navy vessel support for the boarding party during boarding operations, and provides guidance to the boarding officer. The LEDET team leader is responsible for all law enforcement message traffic and should have a SECRET clearance and be qualified as a boarding officer in accordance with reference (a) (preferably a MLE school graduate).
 - (3) Boarding Officer. The duties of the boarding officer are the same as those of any other Coast Guard MLE boarding officer. A CONFIDENTIAL clearance is required (SECRET is desirable) and qualification as a boarding officer in accordance with reference (a) (preferably a MLE school graduate). Ideally, all E-6 and above LEDET team members should be graduates of the five week Maritime Law Enforcement School at Reserve Training Center Yorktown.
 - (4) Boarding Team Members. The remainder of the boarding team should be made up of three five members qualified for boarding in accordance with reference (a). A CONFIDENTIAL clearance is required. At least one Spanish speaking member is recommended to serve as translator. Ideally, all E-5 and below LEDET team members should be graduates of the five week Maritime Law Enforcement School at Reserve Training Center Yorktown or the Boarding Team Member Course at Training Center Petaluma. One member of each LEDET team should have aircraft egress (dunker) training in order to qualify for duties as aircraft observer from embarked aviation detachments. (Without this training, Navy regulations preclude LEDET members flying on surveillance flights to act as observers.)
- g. Computation of Sea Pay and Careers Sea Time: Duty at Law Enforcement Detachment or duty at a station which has designated the member as a deployable law enforcement billet is considered an ashore billet. Career sea time shall be computed for time actually deployed on Naval vessels. Sea pay shall be paid for the time actually spent underway on a deployment. Underway time shall also be considered valid for computation for the Cutterman's Insignia and Sea Service Ribbon.

2. h. Weapons: Security, transportation and control of LEDET weapons shall be in accordance with reference (a). The area commanders may stockpile weapons at common embarkation points for LEDET support. If weapons are not available or there is no stock point near the embarkation point, the LEDET members may travel from the parent district to the U.S. Navy vessels with weapons provided by the parent district. The Commandant's policy concerning the carrying of firearms aboard commercial aircraft is consistent with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules and regulations, and may not be contested by Coast Guard personnel. The only authorized means to transport LEDET weapons onboard commercial airlines is in checked baggage. Suitable hardsided lockable weapons containers (meeting airline requirements for carrying weapons in checked baggage) shall be provided as part of LEDET deployment equipment. Weapons will be unloaded prior to being placed in weapons containers. The containers will be locked and the key or combination retained by the LEDET member. FAA regulations do not require that the container be marked on the outside that it contains firearms. Discreetly remind the airline or security representative of this and request the container be marked on the inside. Weapons may not be retained in carry on luggage or given to an airline crewmember to be held for the duration of the flight. ALL orders for LEDET personnel will be endorsed "Member is performing law enforcement duties and required to carry official firearms" and written declaration made to the airline that the LEDET is transporting weapons. In exigent circumstances, oral notification may be made. All deploying LEDET personnel shall ensure that their ID card is on their person. Personnel are cautioned that CURB 60 is prohibited aboard commercial passenger airlines. CURB 60 may be deleted from the LEDET's boarding gear when travel aboard commercial airlines is required and it cannot be shipped ahead.
 - i. Prisoners: Security and control of prisoners shall be accordance with references (a) and (b).
 - j. Tour Length and Employment Standards: Deployable LEDET tour lengths shall be three years. Members completing LEDET tours shall be fully eligible for duty afloat or ashore on subsequent tours. LEDET scheduling authorities shall manage LEDET deployment schedules to provide for approximately 180 deployment days annually.
3. RESPONSIBILITIES.
 - a. LEDETs shall be administered in accordance with this instruction.
 - b. Commandant (G-OLE) will be overall program manager for LEDETs. Commandant (G-P) will manage personnel assignments to LEDET billets.
 - c. Area commanders shall ensure all personnel involved in the LEDET program are familiar with this instruction. Area commanders shall be primary point of contact for U.S. Navy Atlantic and Pacific Fleets and shall ensure maximum use of U.S. Navy vessels offered on the quarterly employment schedules. Whenever an appropriate U.S. Navy ship which will operate in or transit through possible drug trafficking areas is

3. c. (cont'd) offered for LEDET deployment, and meets law enforcement mission profile requirements, a boarding team should be deployed. Inappropriate law enforcement mission profiles include but are not limited to:
- (1) transits through an area of no drug trafficking interest
 - (2) undivertible for LE (SOA and mission requirements of USN preclude effective law enforcement operations)
 - (3) USN unit unwilling to conduct required small boat ops in moderate seas or darkness
 - (4) no compatible berthing facilities

In each case when appropriate U.S. Navy ships are offered and are not selected for LEDET deployment, the reason for non-deployment shall be reported. If CINCLANT or CINCPAC offers a Navy ship and it is not appropriate for LEDET deployment, it is not considered a valid USN offering and shall be reported as "ships not deployed on due to inappropriate mission profile" (See enclosure 1). This information will be critical in managing the program. Area commanders are encouraged to seek out LEDET deployments in addition to those units offered by the quarterly schedule whenever it is deemed to be productive. Area commanders will develop procedures to eliminate deployments which while meeting patrol area criteria do not allow for time to conduct LE operations. Area commanders will schedule LEDET deployments to provide as much advance notice as reasonably possible. Adequate provision shall be made for personnel rest and recuperation between deployments.

- d. District commanders shall provide administrative support to LEDET deployable billets within their district boundaries. LEDET personnel passing through districts on TAD assignments shall be supported with district resources as appropriate. District commanders shall ensure LEDET deployable billets within their administrative control are fully supported and manning levels do not fall below the level needed to support U.S. Navy deployments. Deployable LEDET workforce level shortfalls shall be brought to the attention of the area commander and Commandant (G-P) as soon as a directly is noted.
- e. Group Commanders with designated LEDET boarding teams and Unit Commanders of units having LEDET deployable billets are responsible for ensuring that personnel filling these billets are fully trained boarding officers or boarding team members and available for U.S. Navy deployments. These personnel must be identified by name to the parent district. Due to the training and experience level needed for LEDET deployable billets, the deployable billet duties shall not be rotated among station personnel. Once a person is designated as filling a LEDET deployable billet, he may not be deleted from that billet without Commandant (G-PE/PO) approval. Approval for personnel changes in non-rated billets must be obtained from the District. No group or station mission or duty shall take priority over the deployable billet's ability to depart on short or urgent notice U.S. Navy deployments. It shall be the responsibility of the individual group

3. e. (cont'd) or station commanding officer or officer in charge to keep the cognizant district informed of the personnel status, including law enforcement and language qualifications, security clearance, and fit for duty status of personnel filling deployable billets. The qualification and training levels may be kept in the Personnel Data Record and submitted in a periodic report to the district commander. This report will include the training and qualification level of the personnel filling the billet. When a group or station authorized a deployable billet does not have billet filled or the person filling the billet is not available for a scheduled LEDET deployment due to health, regular or emergency leave, departure due to PCS or other reason, a message shall be sent to the cognizant district with information copy to area (Aoc/Poc) detailing the reason the billet is not filled and/or available for deployment. In such a case, suitable personnel from another team within the district/group may be used to fill the team vacancy.
4. ACTION. Area and district commanders and unit commanding officers shall make sure the contents of this instruction are closely followed.
5. REPORTS REQUIRED. For effective management of the LEDET program, it will be critical to maintain accurate records of deployable LEDET personnel utilization. Therefore, the following reporting requirements are initiated:
 - a. On a quarterly basis, area commanders shall submit a message report to Commandant (G-OLE) no later than the 20th day of the month following the end of each quarter (See enclosure (1) for message format). Reports shall contain the following information:
 - (1) Number of U.S. Navy ships offered.
 - (2) Number of U.S. Navy ships with CG teams deployed.
 - (3) Number of U.S. Navy ships not deployed on and reason for non-deployment.
 - (4) Total ship days of LEDET U.S. Navy ship deployment by quarter.
 - (5) Number of boardings conducted from U.S. Navy platforms
 - (6) Contacts not investigated or not boarded due to U.S. Navy mission obligations. (State the reason.)
 - (7) Costs of deployment, special equipment and other costs directly attributed to deployment or training provided to U. S. Navy personnel for law enforcement purposes.
 - (8) Summary of other LEDET activities and number of staff days required for each.
 - b. The senior LEDET member will submit a report to the area commander via the chain of command, concerning each deployment. The report will

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5. b. (cont'd) include the information needed for the quarterly report and any other information that may be deemed of value to the program. Area commanders shall forward pertinent comments/reports to Commandant (G-OLE) for information.
- c. Deployment days of Caribbean Squadron personnel will be included in LEDET Ship Deployment Statistics. International Training Team (ITT) deployment days will be reported separately under "summary of other LEDET activities".
- d. The Quarterly LEDET Statistics Report, RCS-G-OLE-2134, applies.

/s/ CLYDE E. ROBBINS
Chief, Office of Operations

Encl: (1) Sample Quarterly Reporting Format

Enclosure (1) to COMDTINST 16240.1
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SAMPLE MESSAGE FORMAT FOR QUARTERLY LEDET STATISTICS REPORT

R
FM COMLANTAREA/COMPACAREA COGARD//AOC// OR //POC//
TO COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//OLE//
INFO CCGD
BT
UNCLAS//N16200//
SUBJ: QTRLY LEDET STATS FOR 2ND QTR FY87, RCS-G-OLE-2134

A. COMDTINST 16240.1

1. IAW REF A FOL IS CAA/CPA LEDET STATS FOR 2ND QTR FY 87:

A. NAVY SHIPS OFFERED: 15

B. NAVY SHIPS NOT DEPLOYED ON: 1

1 SHIP NOT DEPLOYED ON DUE TO NON-AVAILABILITY OF LEDET
PERSONNEL

C. SHIPS NOT DEPLOYED ON DUE TO INAPPROPRIATE MISSION PROFILE: 23

D. TOTAL NAVY SHIP DAYS UTILIZED FOR QUARTER: 234

E. TOTAL NAVY SHIP DAYS OFFERED FOR QUARTER: 270

F. NUMBER OF BOARDINGS FROM NAVY PLATFORMS: 54

G. CONTACTS NOT INVESTIGATED DUE NAVY MISSION OBLIGATIONS: 4, USS
MCCORMICK ON ASW OPS WITH LEDET DEPLOYED 3-4 MAR SOCAL
OPAREAS COULD NOT DIVERT TO BOARD 1 CAT III VSL AND 3 FISHING
VSLs.

I. COST: (FREE FORMAT)

J. SUMMARY: (FREE FORMAT) BT